

Schaumburg, IL - Congresswoman Melissa Bean (IL-08) congratulated Sayali Sakhardande of Hoffman Estates High School for her winning colored pencil drawing, "The Future Generation's America," in the 8th Congressional District Congressional Art Competition yesterday. High school students from across the 8th district were invited to submit original artwork to compete for the privilege of having their piece displayed in the U.S. Capitol complex.

"I was proud to present Sayali with this honor and congratulate all participants in this year's Congressional Art Competition. I am impressed with all of the participants and do not envy the judges' difficult decision," Bean said. "This is a wonderful opportunity for the community to recognize our talented students and promote creativity and visual learning in our schools."

The second place entry, "Untitled," by Kayleigh Sansone of Schaumburg High School, will be displayed in Congresswoman Bean's Washington, DC office for one year. "Contrasting Flavors," by Travis Morrison of Schaumburg High School, the third place entry, will be displayed in the Congresswoman's Schaumburg office for one year. Additionally, all participants will be part of a rotating display in Rep. Bean's Schaumburg office for the next year. Bean announced the names of the three winners at a ceremony Sunday at Roosevelt University in Schaumburg. The pieces will be on display at the university's Rotunda Gallery for one week.

Bean thanked Roosevelt University for hosting the event and the judges for their time: Hans Habeger, Assistant Professor at the College of Lake County; Matt Irie, Art Instructor at McHenry County Community College; and Mark Arctander, Art Department Chair, McHenry County Community College.

The Congressional Art Competition is an annual competition hosted by the U.S. House of Representatives. The competition began in 1982 as an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have participated in the nationwide competition. One piece from each congressional district is displayed in the Cannon House Office Building hallway leading to the Capitol for a period of one year.